

FORM 1304 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

OUTGOING MESSAGE

DATE:

ORIG:

CLASSIFICATION

FILE CLASS: 1A WAR 63

EXT:

~~SECRET~~

CONF:

422

Instructions: Include precedence in address line. All messages routine unless indicated otherwise.

OUT:

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COS ARK ARK SC RI 145 ID 343 G/RDO

TO

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IMMEDIATE

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ATTENTION: ROIC

RYDAT

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM HEADQUARTERS. QUOTE PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY BOARD HAS REQUESTED DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE TO UNDERTAKE AN APPRAISAL OF INTELLIGENCE WARNING PRIOR TO THE TET OFFENSIVE TASK TO BE COMPLETED BY 10 APRIL, WITH AN INTERIM REPORT ON 1 APRIL. THE DCI HAS CONVENED A WORKING GROUP OF USIB, PLUS REPRESENTATION FROM THE JOINT STAFF, TO MAKE THIS APPRAISAL AND PREPARE A REPORT. MUCH OF THE BASIC WORK, HOWEVER, WILL HAVE TO BE DONE IN AND BY THE FIELD.

2. PFIAB HAS BEEN ASKED THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:

A. WHAT INFORMATION REACHED J-2, MACV, IN THE PERIOD JANUARY 15-30 INDICATING THE POSSIBILITY OF THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES? WHAT CAN BE SAID AS TO THE ORIGIN, THE QUANTITY, THE ACCURACY AND THE TIMELINESS OF THIS INFORMATION?

B. IN HOW MANY CASES OF ATTACKS ON THE CITIES AND TOWNS DID THE RESPONSIBLE FIELD COMMANDERS RECEIVE WARNING

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THROUGH INTELLIGENCE SOURCES IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO AVOID BEING SURPRISED? PLEASE SHOW ON A MAP WHERE THESE ATTACKS OCCURRED WHICH WERE THUS FRUSTRATED.

C. TO WHAT EXTENT DID THE VIETNAMESE CIVIL POPULATION GIVE INFORMATION TO THE AUTHORITIES BEFORE AND DURING THE ATTACKS? (IT HAS BEEN SAID ON TELEVISION THAT THERE WAS NOT A SINGLE REPORT FROM CIVILIAN SOURCES ALERTING GVN/US FORCES TO THE IMPENDING ATTACKS). (WORKING GROUP ADDS: WHAT INFORMATION HAD VN INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY ACQUIRED WHICH WARNED OF THE IMPENDING ATTACKS?).

D. TO WHAT EXTENT WAS THERE A FREE AND RAPID EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN GVN AND UNITED STATES AGENCIES? (WORKING GROUP ADDS: AMONG THE SEVERAL U.S. AGENCIES, AND AMONG THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE AGENCIES THEMSELVES?).

E. HAVE THE ENEMY UNITS WHICH ENGAGED IN THE ATTACKS NOW BEEN IDENTIFIED? IF SO, WHAT CONCLUSIONS HAVE BEEN DRAWN FROM THESE IDENTIFICATIONS? (THE BOARD RECOGNIZES THAT THE QUESTION IS MORE PROPERLY PART OF QUESTION A).

F. WHAT SUBSTANTIVE EVALUATED INFORMATION BEARING ON THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES REACHED THE FOLLOWING OFFICIALS IN THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 15-30? (1) GENERAL WESTMORELAND,

(CONTINUED)
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(2) JCS, (3) SECRETARIES OF STATE AND DEFENSE, (4) DCI,
(5) THE PRESIDENT. (WORKING GROUP ADDS: AMBASSADOR BUNKER)

G. INsofar AS IT CAN BE RECONSTRUCTED, WHAT PICTURE
DID THESE OFFICIALS HAVE OF THE SITUATION BASED UPON
INTELLIGENCE RECEIVED JUST PRIOR TO THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES?

3. YOU WILL RECOGNIZE THAT THE BULK OF THE INFORMATION
REQUIRED CAN ONLY BE OBTAINED IN VIETNAM. WE RECOGNIZE THAT
ALL AGENCIES IN SAIGON ARE HEAVILY COMMITTED TO CURRENT AND
FUTURE OPERATIONS. IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE MINIMUM IMPACT
ON YOUR DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS, WE PROPOSE TO SEND A SMALL
TEAM TO ASSIST IN COLLECTING AND REVIEWING RELEVANT INFORMATION.
SUBJECT TO MISSION SUGGESTIONS, PROPOSE ABOUT THREE DAYS
OF SIAM SAIGON CONSULTATIONS AND EXAMINATIONS OF MATERIALS
AVAILABLE AND TWO OR THREE DAYS AT SELECTED FIELD LOCATIONS
WITH A ONE-DAY WRAP-UP IN SAIGON. UNQUOTE

4. ~~THAXI~~ CAS HAS BEEN CHARGED SPECIFICALLY WITH
ASSEMBLING MATERIAL COLLECTED THROUGH CAS CHANNELS DURING
THE PERIOD 15-30 JANUARY WHICH CONTAINED INDICATIONS OF
THE TET OFFENSIVE, AND MATERIALS IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS
C AND D. ROIC'S ARE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE SAIGON BY
COB SUNDAY 17 MARCH INFORMATION WHICH YOU HAVE ON HAND
ONLY
IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS C AND D ABOVE. WE DO NOT DESIRE

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FORM 10-64 1304 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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THAT YOU PUT THIS REQUIREMENT ON THE PROVINCE OFFICERS
AT THIS TIME.

5. THE INTERAGENCY TEAM WILL ARRIVE SAIGON ON
16 MARCH. THE TEAM PLANS TO VISIT SELECTED HEADQUARTERS
AT CORPS/FIELD FORCE LEVEL, INCLUDING CAS BXX ROIC'S.
YOU WILL BE ADVISED AS SOON AS ITINERARY IS SET.

-END OF MESSAGE-

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